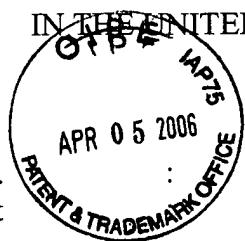


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Appl. No. : 10/638,094
Applicant : Borst et al.
Filed : 08/07/2003
TC/A.U. : 1775
Examiner : Xu, Ling X.

Assignee Docket No. : 128834-2
Attorney Docket No. : GP2-0291
Customer No. : 23413

Via Facsimile (571) 273-8300, TC Group 1700
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2006.

Please amend the above-identified application to place the case in better condition for allowance.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application. Claims 10 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1, 15, and 16 have been amended, leaving claims 1-9 and 11-17 for consideration upon entry of the present Amendment. The claims have been amended as explained in the Remarks section. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.